

IN THE CLAIMS:

A complete listing of the Claims and their status is as follows:

Claims 1-16 (Canceled).

17. (currently amended) A magnetically shielded fluorescent lamp ballast case for shielding humans from harmful effects of the magnetic component of electromagnetic fields emitted from a fluorescent lamp ballast, by reducing the magnetic component of the electromagnetic fields emitted from the electrical and electronic components within said fluorescent lamp ballast, particularly the magnetic component of said electromagnetic fields between 60 Hertz and 100 Kilohertz, comprising:

a generally rectangular fluorescent lamp ballast case enclosing said electrical and electronic components, said fluorescent lamp ballast case having holes in said fluorescent lamp ballast case to insert external connecting wiring;

said fluorescent lamp ballast case being made of a shielding material absorbing the magnetic component of the electromagnetic fields;

said magnetic shielding material being a soft ferromagnetic metal alloy having an initial magnetic permeability of at least 200 gauss/oersted, and,

said magnetic shielding material providing attenuation of magnetic fields up to 100 Kilohertz.

18. (previously presented) The fluorescent lamp ballast as in Claim 17 further comprising said ferromagnetic alloy further comprising an alloy containing at least one element selected from the group consisting of iron, nickel, or cobalt.

19. (currently amended) The fluorescent lamp ballast as in Claim 17 further comprising said soft ferromagnetic alloy characterized by preferably having ~~an initial a magnetic permeability of at least 200 gauss/oersted, preferably above~~ at least 2,000 gauss/oersted.

20. (previously presented) The fluorescent lamp ballast as in Claim 17 further comprising said soft ferromagnetic alloy being selected from the group consisting of 4-79 Permalloy, Supermalloy, 1040 alloy, Mumetal, Rhometal, Sinimax, Monimax, 45 Permalloy, 4750, Armco 48 Ni, Carpenter 49 Alloy, 47-50% Ni, 50-53% Fe, Hipernik, Hipernik V, 48 Orthonik, Deltamax, Isoperm, 78 Permalloy, Permalloy 78, MagneSHIELD-24, ALLOY 78, Blendalloy 25-2025, Blendalloy 25-8004, Eagle AAA, Egale AA, Eagle A, Co-Netic AA, Co-Netic B, Netic, AD-MU-00, AD-MU-48, AD-MU-78, AD-MU-80, HyMu "80" alloy, and Hypernom.

21. (currently amended) A magnetically shielded fluorescent ballast case for shielding humans from the harmful effects of the magnetic component of electromagnetic fields emitted from a fluorescent lamp ballast, by reducing the electromagnetic fields emitted from the electrical and electronic components

within said fluorescent lamp ballast, particularly the magnetic component of said electromagnetic fields between 60 Hertz and 100 Kilohertz, comprising:

a generally rectangular fluorescent lamp ballast enclosing said electrical and electronic components, said fluorescent lamp ballast having holes in said fluorescent lamp ballast case to insert external connecting wiring;

said fluorescent lamp ballast case lined with a magnetic shielding material liner,

said magnetic shielding material liner being a soft ~~ferro-magnetic~~ ferromagnetic metal foil alloy having nickel and an initial magnetic permeability of at least 200 gauss/oersted,

said soft ferromagnetic metal foil alloy being attached with adhesive to said ballast case; and

said magnetic shielding material liner providing attenuation of magnetic fields up to 100 Kilohertz.

22. (cancelled)

23. (currently amended) The fluorescent lamp ballast as in Claim ~~[[21]]~~ 22 further comprising said soft ferromagnetic alloy characterized by preferably having an initial a magnetic permeability of ~~at least 200 gauss/oersted,~~ preferably above at least 2,000 gauss/oersted.

24. (currently amended) The fluorescent lamp ballast as in Claim ~~[[21]]~~ 23 further comprising said soft ferromagnetic alloy being including a component selected from the group consisting of cobalt, iron, Netic, AD-MU-00, AD-MU-48, AD-MU-78, AD-MU-80, Eagle AAA, and Co-Netic AA.

25. (currently amended) The fluorescent lamp ballast as in Claim ~~[[21]]~~ 24 further comprising said foil layer being external to said ballast case.

26. (currently amended) The fluorescent lamp ballast as in Claim ~~[[21]]~~ 24 further comprising said foil layer being internal to said ballast case.

27. (new) The fluorescent lamp ballast case as in claim 17, further comprising said soft ferromagnetic alloy characterized by having a thickness of about .014 inches.

28. (new) The fluorescent lamp ballast case as in claim 17, further comprising said soft ferromagnetic alloy characterized by having an attenuation factor of about 4.6.

29. (new) The fluorescent lamp ballast case as in claim 21, further comprising said soft ferromagnetic alloy characterized by having a thickness of about .002 inches.

30. (new) The fluorescent lamp ballast case as in claim 21, further comprising said soft ferromagnetic alloy characterized by having an attenuation factor of about 218.